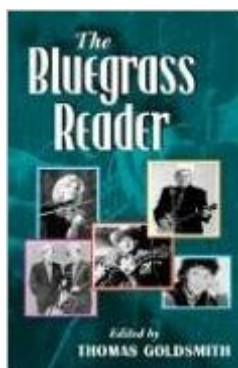


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# The Bluegrass Reader (Music In American Life)



## Synopsis

This is a guide to bluegrass music that traces the development of this musical genre, since its origin in Anglo-American folk tradition. Featuring writers such as Marty Stuart, David Gates, and Hunter Thompson, the selection includes classics in the history of writing about bluegrass.

## Book Information

Series: Music in American Life

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## Customer Reviews

"With its strong selection of articles from a wide range of sources, The Bluegrass Reader makes a significant and much-needed contribution to the literature on bluegrass. Anyone with an interest in the music is bound to find it both enjoyable and indispensable."

Thomas Goldsmith is generations reporter for the News and Observer in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Trust recipient will enjoy!!!

I've never much enjoyed reading about music; far more fun to play or listen to it. Lately, though, I've become addicted to these "cheap reads" covering a variety of subjects and after checking out a few pages of this one on line, ordered it and can highly recommend the book for anyone interested in bluegrass or old time string band music. Bluegrass slammed me in the back of the head from out of nowhere back in the early 1950s when I happened across Don Reno's "Dixie Breakdown" courtesy

of Ray Davis` broadcast on WBMD AM from Johnnie`s Used Car Lot in Baltimore. I hadn`t a clue what the instrument was, called Ray who gave me a brief education about the 5-string banjo. That same day I rented a banjo for \$2.00 monthly "applicable to purchase price" from Ted Martini`s amazing music store on Center Street in Baltimore. (My two criticisms of the book are, by the way, are that there is no mention of Ray Davis, who has probably done more for the music than anyone else in the Baltimore area, and that Walter Hensley, the most underrated banjo player alive, is also overlooked.) There are interviews with just about all the original bluegrass musicians one can name; Monroe, Reno, Wiseman and many more, as well as accounts of various events, one of which is the late great Mike Seeger`s account of the "Banjo Pickers Contest" at Sunset Park back in 1958. After reading that one I came to the sobering realization I had been performing "Home Sweet Home" in contests, and far more often than not losing, for at least fifty two years. A great little book!

A wonderful contribution to literature on bluegrass and a true labor of love. Lots of little-known history and stories, and reprints of some important writing on the subject.

Loved it

Terrific compilation of bluegrass writing with Thomas Goldsmith`s introduction being one of the best overviews of bluegrass and its history available. Bears repeated reading!

Great reading about different bluegrass artists. Some have been printed before or at least similar but well worth the read!

This is not just for the bluegrass fan; it really shows a history and progression that would parallel many social movements.

bought for my husband he seems to like it.

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